

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

### 1.—A TIGER CLIMBING A TREE.

I am enclosing two photographs showing a tree, up which a young tiger climbed and which incident is most interesting and probably unique in the history of such animals. The tree is a soft-skinned one, commonly met with in the forests of the Khasi and Jaintiah Hills of Assam. The total height of the tree is about 80 feet and the first branch springs from the stem at about 45 feet. The girth at the bottom is about 9 feet. The cub was lying flat on one of the branches about 15 feet higher than the first branch, and was fired at with a shot gun by a local Garo who wounded the animal in the first shot and then whilst the animal was coming down backwards, he fired a ball cartridge at it but apparently missed. The tiger jumped off the tree and made away into the jungle, with a blood trail going for quite a long distance. My brother, who is a forest officer, and I verified the statement by examining the tree and the trail of blood. From the size of the pug marks and the claw marks up the tree, it was quite obvious that they were those of a tiger cub; probably driven up the tree by wild dogs or its parent as the parents were seen by us in the vicinity the week before.

As I am eager to know if such a case has ever been referred to you before, will you please drop me a line, as this incident would be one of general interest to shikaris bent on big game hunting, and should be brought to more prominence amongst them. It might incidentally be the saving of some of their skins when out sitting up on machans.

'PEACHLANDS',

SHILLONG, ASSAM.

13th March 1946.

CH. DE LA LONGEREDE,

Hon. Capt., R.I.E., Indian Army.

[There are several instances recorded of tigers climbing trees. In vol. xxxiii, pp. 196-197 of the *Journal* the editors reviewed the literature available on the subject. The maximum height so far recorded is 30 feet; the present instance doubles the known record. The photographs were unfortunately unsuitable for reproduction.—EDS.]

### 2.—A TIGER 'RUNS AMOK'.

An article in the *Calcutta Statesman* of below date reads: 'Man-eater kills 7 coolies, is then killed in battle with wild buffalo.' It then proceeds to give details which appear to me to be inconsistent.

A man-eater is reported to be usually a *sneak thief* and kills for food alone due to some incapacity, old age, and sometimes from inheritance. No wholesale slaughter such as described above